

SENATE RESOLUTION 38

By Hensley

A RESOLUTION to join with the Spring Hill Police Department in celebrating May 15, 2013, as "National Peace Officers Memorial Day" and May 12-18, 2013, as "National Police Week".

WHEREAS, in providing for the domestic tranquility of the community as a whole, society recognizes the need for a system of laws; and

WHEREAS, the enforcement of such laws has been entrusted to a small number of dedicated individuals; these individuals, known as law enforcement officers, daily face the rigors of human conflict in protecting those whom they so selflessly serve; and

WHEREAS, May 15 of each year, as established by the United States Congress in 1962 and signed into law by President John F. Kennedy in that year, is designated as National Peace Officers Memorial Day, which is observed in conjunction with National Police Week; and

WHEREAS, the first National Peace Officers Memorial Day Service was held in Washington, D.C., on May 15, 1982, while the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial was dedicated in our Nation's capital on October 15, 1991; and

WHEREAS, the 103rd Congress amended the law in 1994 to direct that the U.S. Flag be lowered to half-staff on National Peace Officers Memorial Day; the amendment was signed into law by President Bill Clinton; and

WHEREAS, there are currently more than 900,000 law enforcement officers serving in the United States, which is the highest figure ever. Since the first recorded police death in 1792, there have been nearly 19,000 law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, the deadliest day in law enforcement history was September 11, 2001, when 72 officers were killed while responding to the terrorist attacks on America; and

WHEREAS, on average, more than 56,000 law enforcement officers are assaulted each year, resulting in some 16,000 injuries; and

WHEREAS, engraved on the Memorial Wall in Washington are the names of nearly 1,016 federal officers, 571 correctional officers, and thirty military law enforcement officers who have died in the line of duty, a tragic number eclipsed only by the thousands of local law enforcement officers who have sacrificed their lives in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, there were 126 officers killed in the line of duty, two of whom were from Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the Spring Hill Police Department will hold a Police Memorial service on May 16, 2013, at 7 p.m. at Spring Hill City Hall, to honor and remember all officers who have been killed in the line of duty; and

WHEREAS, the State of Tennessee is proud to join forces with the United States Congress, the Spring Hill Police Department, and all concerned citizens throughout Tennessee and the United States to observe "National Peace Officers Memorial Day" and "National Police Week"; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby join with the Spring Hill Police Department in celebrating May 15, 2013, as "National Peace Officers Memorial Day" and May 12-18, 2013, as "National Police Week".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.